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## United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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JAN 29 2002

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS AND MINING

Price Field Office  
125 South 600 West  
Price, Utah 84501

3482  
SL-068754  
(UT-070)

Certified Mail--Return Receipt Requested  
Certificate No. 7099 3400 0006 5101 7969

Mr. John C. Lewis  
Mining Engineer  
West Ridge Resources, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1077  
Price, Utah 84501

JAN 29 2002

*Incoming*  
*1/007/041*  
*Cory Aaron*

Re: Minor Modification, Resource Recovery and Protection Plan (R2P2), Southeast Longwall Area  
West Ridge Mine

Dear Mr. Lewis:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has received from West Ridge Resources on November 1, 2001, proposed changes to the subject R2P2. The modification would shorten the longwall panels on the southeast side approaching the old Sunnyside Mine workings due to a rock split in the coal seam. The proposals are located on Federal lease SL-068754.

West Ridge proposes to mine the longwall set-up entries between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Right gateroads at crosscut 69 in 2<sup>nd</sup> Right and mine the bleeder entries 300 feet beyond the set-up entries. This change would shorten the longwall panel by about 300 feet from the original projection. West Ridge also plans to develop successive gateroad entries to the limit of the rock split. The company reports encountering a rock split in the coal that has left a minable seam thickness of less than 6 feet.

The BLM has inspected the area in question and has noted the rock split. A split in the coal of up to 2 feet was mapped and the trend of the increase was noted. BLM agrees that further mining of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Right gateroad would produce coal of unacceptable quality and the mining of the set-up room at crosscut 69 would avoid the rock split and still maximize longwall recovery. We also agree with a general modification for the next gateroads that would likely run into the split. The noted trend of the split would most likely extend into the next proposed longwall panels (panels 2 and 3). A general modification would allow mining up to the rock split and allow maximum longwall recovery.

West Ridge's proposed changes to the R2P2 complies with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and conditions, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. The new layout for panel #1 with set-up rooms at crosscut 69 is approved as submitted. A general modification is also approved for panels 2 and 3 based on the encountering of the rock split that would curtail further development. West Ridge is to inform the BLM when these conditions are encountered for verification and to approve longwall set-up entries and bleeders. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Falk of my staff at (435) 636-3600.

Sincerely,

**/S/ THOMAS E. RASMUSSEN**

Thomas E. Rasmussen  
Acting Field Manager

Enclosure  
Approved Mine Map

cc: State Office, Utah (UT-923) (w/ encl.)  
Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining  
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 (w/encl.)

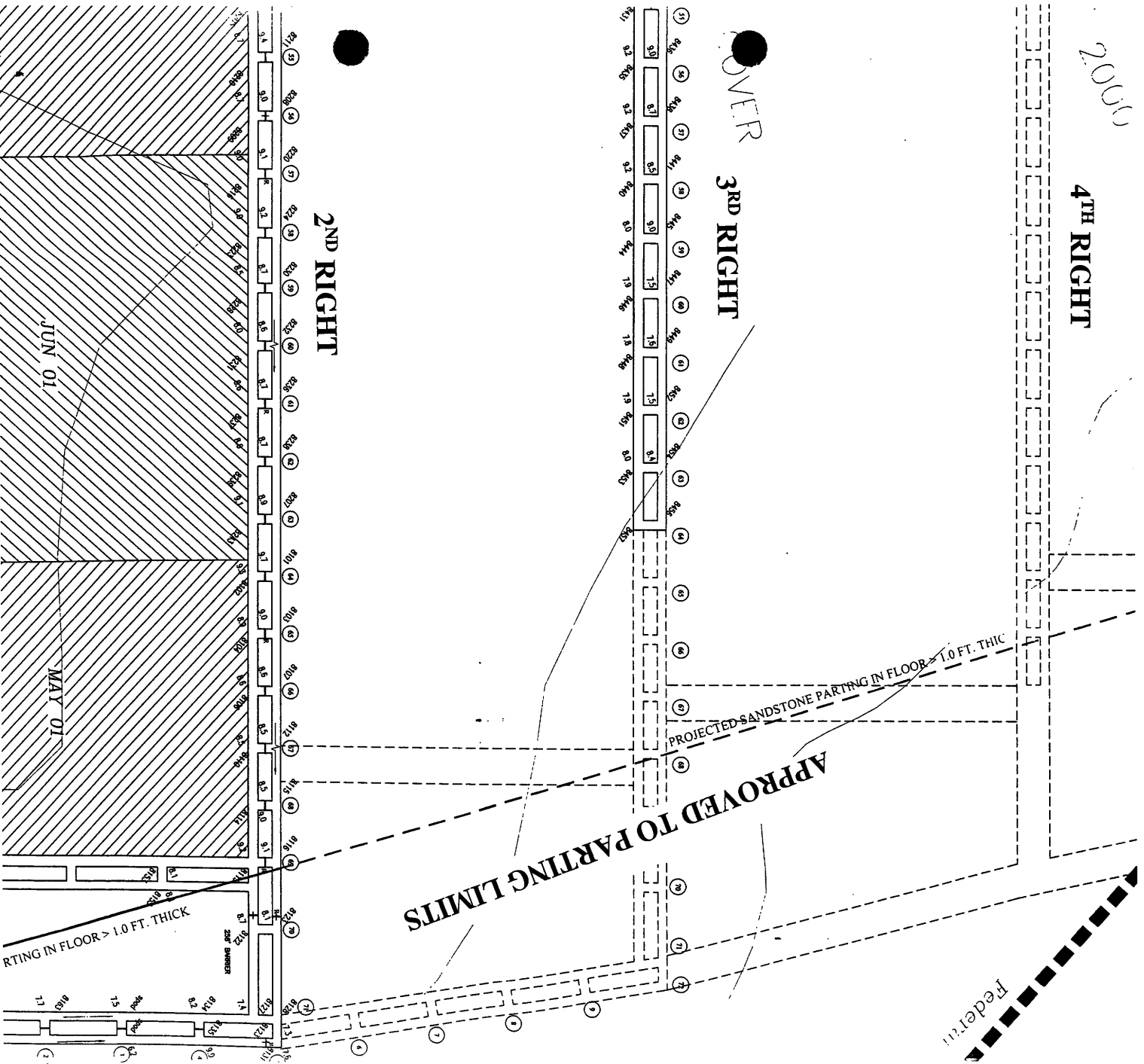
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westridgsew.mod

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4<sup>TH</sup> RIGHT

3<sup>RD</sup> RIGHT

2<sup>ND</sup> RIGHT



MINOR MODIFICATION TO  
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Recommended By:

Heather W. Feld 1/24/02  
Mining Engineering (Date)

Approved By:  
Steve S. Hume 1/29/02  
Area Manager (Date)